
Archaeological Assessment of the Proposed Private Plan Change
Awakino Road

Dargaville

30 June 2023

Prepared for:

Moonlight Heights Ltd
c/o Barker and Associates Ltd
PO Box 1986
Shortland St
Auckland

Prepared by:

Geometria Limited
PO Box 1972
Whangarei



Geometria

Quality Information

Document: Archaeological Assessment of the Proposed Private Plan Change. Awakino Road. Dargaville

Ref: 2023-105

Date: 30 June 2023

Prepared by: Jonathan Carpenter

Revision History

Revision	Revision Date	Details	Authorized Name
Client draft ver. 0.1	30 June 2023		J. Carpenter

© GEOMETRIA Limited 2023

The information contained in this document produced by GEOMETRIA Limited is solely for the use of the Client identified on the cover sheet for the purpose for which it has been prepared and GEOMETRIA Limited undertakes no duty to nor accepts any responsibility to any third party who may rely upon this document.

All rights reserved. No section or element of this document may be removed from this document, reproduced, electronically stored or transmitted in any form without the written permission of GEOMETRIA Limited.

File ref.:

D:\Documents\2023\2023_105_Awakino_Road_PPC\Reports\Working\20230628_Awakino_Road_PPC_Archaeological_Assessment.docx

Contents

1.0 Introduction.....	6
1.1 The Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014	6
1.2 The Resource Management Act 1991.....	8
2.0 Location	8
3.0 Proposed Development.....	8
4.0 Methodology	9
4.1 Research and Field Assessment	9
4.2 Significance Assessment.....	10
5.0 Archaeological and Heritage Sites.....	11
5.1 Archaeological Context.....	11
5.2 Other Heritage Sites and Listings	13
6.0 Historic Background	12
6.1 Maori History	13
6.2 European Arrival	14
6.3 Parore Te Āwha and the Kaihu 2 Block	15
6.4 Review of Historical Sources	19
7.0 Site Visit	29
8.0 Significance Assessment.....	35
9.0 Assessment of Effects.....	36
9.1 Effects on Potential Unrecorded and/or Subsurface Archaeological Features.....	36
9.2 Effects on Possible Occupation Terrace and Storage Pit	36
9.3 Other Historic Heritage Effects	36
10.0 Findings and Recommendations	37
11.0 Conclusions.....	37
12.0 References.....	38
12.1 Published Sources.....	38
12.2 Unpublished Sources, Maps and Plans	38

Figures

Figure 1: Awakino Road Private Plan Change area.	7
Figure 2: Awakino Road Precinct Plan.....	9
Figure 3: Recorded archaeological sites in the vicinity of the Plan Change area (outlined blue).....	11
Figure 4: Archaeological sites in the Dargaville area.	12
Figure 5: Parore Te Āwha.	17
Figure 6: ML3509/B (1889).	17
Figure 7: William Archibald Spiers (The Cyclopaedia of New Zealand, 1902: 624).....	19
Figure 8: SO 5761/2 (1890) showing survey of Dargaville-Tangiteroria (Awakino) Road on the western side of the plan change area.	20
Figure 9: SO 5762/1 (1890) showing survey of Dargaville-Tangiteroria (Awakino) Road on the southern side of the Plan Change area.	21
Figure 10: DP 1329 (1893) showing survey of part of Kaihu 2B, the eastern slopes of the Plan Change area.....	22
Figure 11: DP 1322 (1894) showing survey of the 130 acre Pt Kaihu 2B Block, encompassing most of the Plan Change area apart from the eastern slopes, for William Archibald Spiers (note the later annotation regarding DP 7386, where 105 acres was surveyed out in 1912).	23
Figure 12: ML 7142 (1904) showing subdivision of southern part of Kaihu 2B including 2B3 on the west side of Awakino Road, for the Maori owners.....	24
Figure 13: DP 7836 (1912) for the Speirs (sic) Brothers, subdividing off 105 acres on the southern part.	25

Figure 14: DP 12535 (1918) showing the division of Kaihu 2B for H. Spiers.	26
Figure 15: Detail from Geological Survey of the Maungaru District (Harris 1928); note sewerage plant to the north of the Plan Change area, and houses to the south.....	27
Figure 16: DP 36083 (1948) showing subdivision of residential lots along Awakino Road, and establishment of rear farm lots.....	28
Figure 17: Aerial SN 727-7A (1950; Retrolens).	29
Figure 18: Looking east across the northern slopes of the Plan Change area.	30
Figure 19: Looking southeast towards the Awakino on the north eastern side of the plan change area.	30
Figure 20: Looking north across the eastern slopes of the Plan Change area.	31
Figure 21: Looking west across the southern slopes of the Plan Change area.	31
Figure 22: Looking east across the southern slopes of the Plan Change area.	32
Figure 23: Looking north across the level ground towards the centre of the plan change area.....	32
Figure 24: Looking west towards possible site (circled red).....	33
Figure 25: Possible pit (purple outline) and terrace (green outline) near the southern boundary.....	33
Figure 26: Possible pit and terrace in southeast corner of Plan Change area.	34

Tables

Table 1: Significance assessment of possible Maori occupation terrace and pit P07/108.	35
---	----

Glossary

Classic	The later period of New Zealand settlement
Midden	The remains of food refuse usually consisting of shells, and bone, but can also contain artefacts
Pa	A site fortified with earthworks and palisade defences
Pit	Rectangular excavated pit used to store crops by Maori
Terrace	A platform cut into the hill slope used for habitation
Wahi tapu	Sites of spiritual significance to Maori

1.0 Introduction

A. Neale of Barker and Associates Ltd commissioned Geometria Ltd to undertake an archaeological assessment of the proposed Private Plan Change for Moonlight Heights Ltd, at Awakino Road, Dargaville

Under the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014 (HNZPTA) all archaeological sites are protected from any modification, damage or destruction except by the authority of Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga (HNZPT).

This assessment uses archaeological techniques to assess archaeological values and does not seek to locate or identify wāhi tapu or other places of cultural or spiritual significance to Maori. Such assessments may only be made by Tangata Whenua, who may be approached independently of this report for advice.

Likewise, such an assessment by Tangata Whenua does not constitute an archaeological assessment. Permission to undertake ground disturbing activity on and around archaeological sites and features may only be provided by Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga, and may only be monitored or investigated by a qualified archaeologist approved through the archaeological authority process.

1.1 The Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014

Under the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014 (previously the Historic Places Act 1993) all archaeological sites are protected from any modification, damage or destruction except by the authority of Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga (previously the Historic Places Trust). Section 6 of the HNZPTA defines an archaeological site as:

"any place in New Zealand, including any building or structure (or part of a building or structure), that—

(i) was associated with human activity that occurred before 1900 or is the site of the wreck of any vessel where the wreck occurred before 1900; and

(ii) provides or may provide, through investigation by archaeological methods, evidence relating to the history of New Zealand; and

(b) includes a site for which a declaration is made under section 43(1)"

To be protected under the HNZPTA an archaeological site must have physical remains that pre-date 1900 and that can be investigated by scientific archaeological techniques. Sites from 1900 or post-1900 can be declared an archaeological site under section 43(1) of the Act.

If a development is likely to impact on an archaeological site, an authority to modify or destroy this site must be obtained from the local Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga office under section 44 of the HNZPTA. Where damage or destruction of archaeological sites is to occur, Heritage New Zealand usually requires mitigation. Penalties for modifying a site without an authority include fines of up to \$300,000 for destruction of a site.

Most archaeological evidence consists of sub-surface remains and is often not visible on the ground. Indications of an archaeological site are often very subtle and hard to distinguish on the ground surface. Sub-surface excavations on a suspected archaeological site can only take place with an authority issued under section 56 of the HNZPTA issued by the Heritage New Zealand.

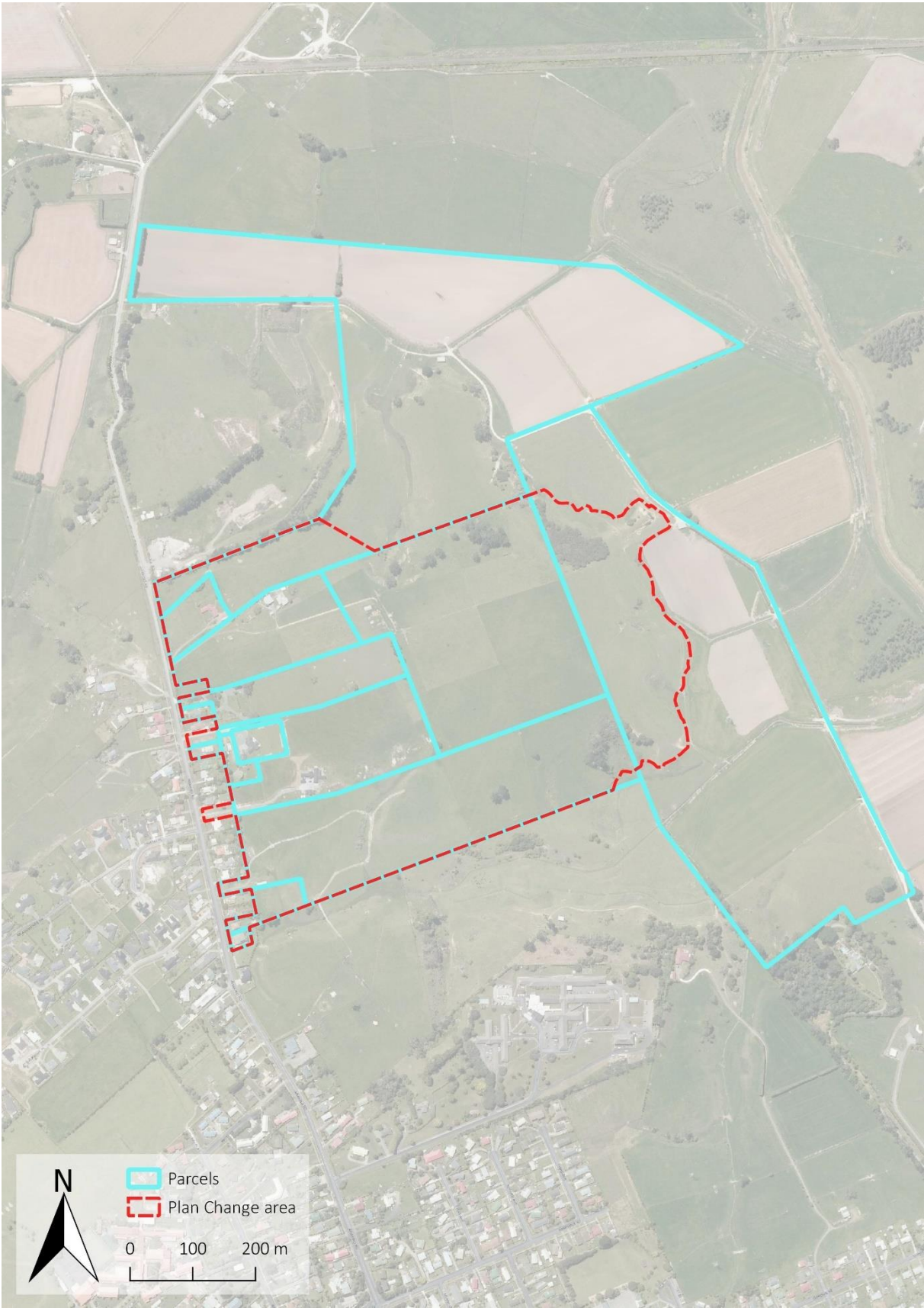


Figure 1: Awakino Road Private Plan Change area.

1.2 The Resource Management Act 1991.

Archaeological sites and other historic heritage may also be considered under the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA). The RMA establishes (under Part 2) in the RMA's purpose (section 5) the matters of national importance (Section 6), and other matters (section 7) and all decisions by a consent authority are subject to these provisions. Sections 6e and 6f identify historic heritage (which includes archaeological sites) and Maori heritage as matters of national importance.

Councils have a responsibility to recognise and provide for the relationship of Maori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, wāhi tapu, and other taonga (Section 6e). Councils also have the statutory responsibility to recognise and provide for the protection of historic heritage from inappropriate subdivision, use and development within the context of sustainable management (Section 6f). Responsibilities for managing adverse effects on heritage arise as part of policy and plan preparation and the resource consent processes.

In assessing a proposed Private Plan Change, Councils must assess and provide for matters of national importance, including historic and Maori heritage.

2.0 Location

The Plan Change area comprises 39.2ha of land on the eastern side of Awakino Road, one kilometre north of the intersection with State Highway 12 (Figure 1).

The majority plan change area is a flat table land, with moderate to steep slopes to the north, east and south, and the level ground turning to rolling country to the west beyond Awakino Road. The Plan Change area is in a mix of established, small residential lots in a strip fronting Awakino Road, more recent lifestyle properties immediately east of the residential lots, and farmland on the eastern side. Grazed pasture (mostly kikuyu) predominates across the area, with small stands of regenerating manuka/kanuka, pine trees, wetlands and water courses with rushes, and residential gardens.

The underlying geology is clayey sand which is white and highly quartzose in places, with clay content up to 20%. It has formed high consolidated dunes of very soft clayey sand to depths of ten metres. On the eastern where the drops away to the river flats is alluvium of mud, sand and gravel with minor peats forming very soft floodplain deposits up to 60m thick (Markham 1982).

The underlying dunes have weathered to Kara silt loam on the level ground, commonly referred to along with other similar soils as gumland, pipe clay or podzolised soils. These have formed under acidic kauri forest litter where nutrients and fine clays have leached through the soil with mildly acidic ground water produced by decaying kauri leaves and bark, leaving behind a silica and sand hardpan beneath leached pipe clay soils. The soils tend to be poorly drained, subject to erosion due to poor structure, and lacking in nutrients.

Off the level ground, the slopes north, east and south are Tangikiki loam and sand which are more moderately leached and podzolised. These soils tend to be extremely mixed, poorly drained yet drought-prone due to subsoil pans and are subject to severe sheet and gully erosion.

3.0 Proposed Development

Moonlight Heights Ltd propose a Private Plan Change to rezone the rural land to residential and apply a precinct to the Plan Change area to provide for intensification. The proposed precinct considers topography, hydrology, vegetation and the existing cadastral boundaries in order to protect valuable horticultural land to the east, and indigenous vegetation, wetlands and water courses, while allowing for residential development.

The current precinct concept envisages a loop road through the centre of the Plan Change area with a 'green street' providing a link between the long axes of the loop road. Residential land use will encompass the level ground and slopes, avoiding the existing wetlands, seeps and ponds (Figure 2).

Medium density development is envisaged within the residential zone, with subdivision allowing minimum net lot size of 450m² and average lot size of 600m² where lots are serviced, or minimum net size of 2500m and average size of 3000m² where lots are un-serviced.

AWAKINO ROAD, DARGAVILLE | PRECINCT PLAN



Figure 2: Awakino Road Precinct Plan.

4.0 Methodology

4.1 Research and Field Assessment

The desktop survey involved an investigation of written and visual records relating to the history of the Plan Change area. These included regional archaeological and historical publications and unpublished reports, New Zealand Archaeological Association Site Record Files or NZAA SRF (ArchSite - www.archsite.org.nz - is the online repository of the NZAA SRF), land plans from Land Information New Zealand, and other plans, maps, and imagery held by the Alexander Turnbull, Auckland, and Whangarei Libraries, and aerial imagery from Retrolens and Google Earth. Deeds indexes and Registers were also consulted, along with the Journal of the House of Representatives.

The field assessment involved pedestrian survey over the main Moonlight Heights Ltd property, paying particular attention to the sloping ground on the eastern and southern side of the Plan Change area. No probing or test pitting was undertaken.

The other private properties on the eastern side of the Plan Change area were viewed from the road, and via aerial imagery, but were not visited.

4.2 Significance Assessment

Archaeological significance is assessed using the following criteria:

The first set of criteria assess the potential of the site to provide a better understanding of New Zealand's past using scientific archaeological methods. These categories are focussed on the intra-site level.

How complete is the site and what condition is it in? Are parts of it already damaged or destroyed? A complete, undisturbed site has a high value in this section, a partly destroyed or damaged site has moderate value and a site of which all parts are damaged is of low value.

How diverse are the features to be expected during an archaeological excavation on the site, and what information potential is there? A site with only one or two known or expected feature types is of low value. A site with some variety in the known or expected features is of moderate value and a site like a defended kainga which can be expected to contain a complete feature set for a given historic/prehistoric period is of high value in this category.

How rare or unique is the site? Rarity can be described in a local, regional and national context. If the site is not rare at all, it has no significance in this category. If the site is rare in a local context only it is of low significance, if the site is rare in a regional context, it has moderate significance and it is of high significance if the site is rare nationwide.

The second set of criteria puts the site into its broader context: inter-site, archaeological landscape and historic/oral traditions.

What is the context of the site within the surrounding archaeological sites? The question here is the part the site plays within the surrounding known archaeological sites. A site which sits amongst similar surrounding sites without any specific features is of low value. A site which occupies a central position within the surrounding sites is of high value.

What is the landscape context of the site, and its amenity value? This question is linked to the one above, but focuses onto the position of the site in the landscape. If it is a dominant site with many features still visible it has high value, but if the position in the landscape is ephemeral with little or no features visible it has a low value. This question is also concerned with the amenity value of a site and its potential to be enjoyed by or educate the public from within the site or nearby public areas.

What is the context of the site within known historic events or people, and its association with communities of interest? This is the question of known cultural association either by tangata whenua or other descendant groups. The closer the site is linked with important historic events or people the higher the significance of the site. This question is also concerned with possible commemorative values of the site or the values the site holds to local communities.

An overall significance value derives from weighing up the different significance values of each of the categories.

5.0 Archaeological and Heritage Sites

5.1 Archaeological Context

There are no archaeological sites recorded in the Plan Change area, and no sites within 100m of the Plan Change area (Figure 3). Further, there are no recorded sites in Dargaville, despite the European occupation in the area extending back to the 1830s, and Maori occupation for many hundreds of years more. The nearest sites to the Plan Change area are approximately four kilometres to the southwest, where Pouto o Te Rangi Pa, two other unnamed Pa, the kainga of the mid-19th century Te Uri O Hau Rangatira Paikea, human remains and the Methodist manse are recorded in the vicinity of the Dargaville Museum and Pouto/Mount Wesley Coast Road intersection. Another pa is recorded a similar distance to the southeast on the other side of the Wairoa River at Mititai (Figure 4).

However a recent assessment resulted the recorded of approximately 20 large pa and pit and terrace complexes between Bailey’s Beach, Glinks Gully, and Dargaville (Carpenter 2022) so it is possible for large and impressive pre-European Contact Maori sites not visible from public places to remain unrecorded. Also, despite an extensive archaeological assessment for the Kaihu Valley Rail Trail (Taylor 2021) which notes the whole 42km railway as an archaeological site comprising the railway formation itself, embankments, cuttings, bridges, culverts and stations, the railway has been recorded as a single site with one grid reference midway along the railway alignment and the southern part of the railway within suburban/urban Dargaville was not assessed. An ongoing project sponsored by Waka Kotahi to develop an in-house heritage management has also recorded a number of sites adjacent to the State Highway 12 corridor through Dargaville that have yet to be added to ArchSite (Carpenter *in prep.*).



Figure 3: Recorded archaeological sites in the vicinity of the Plan Change area (outlined blue).

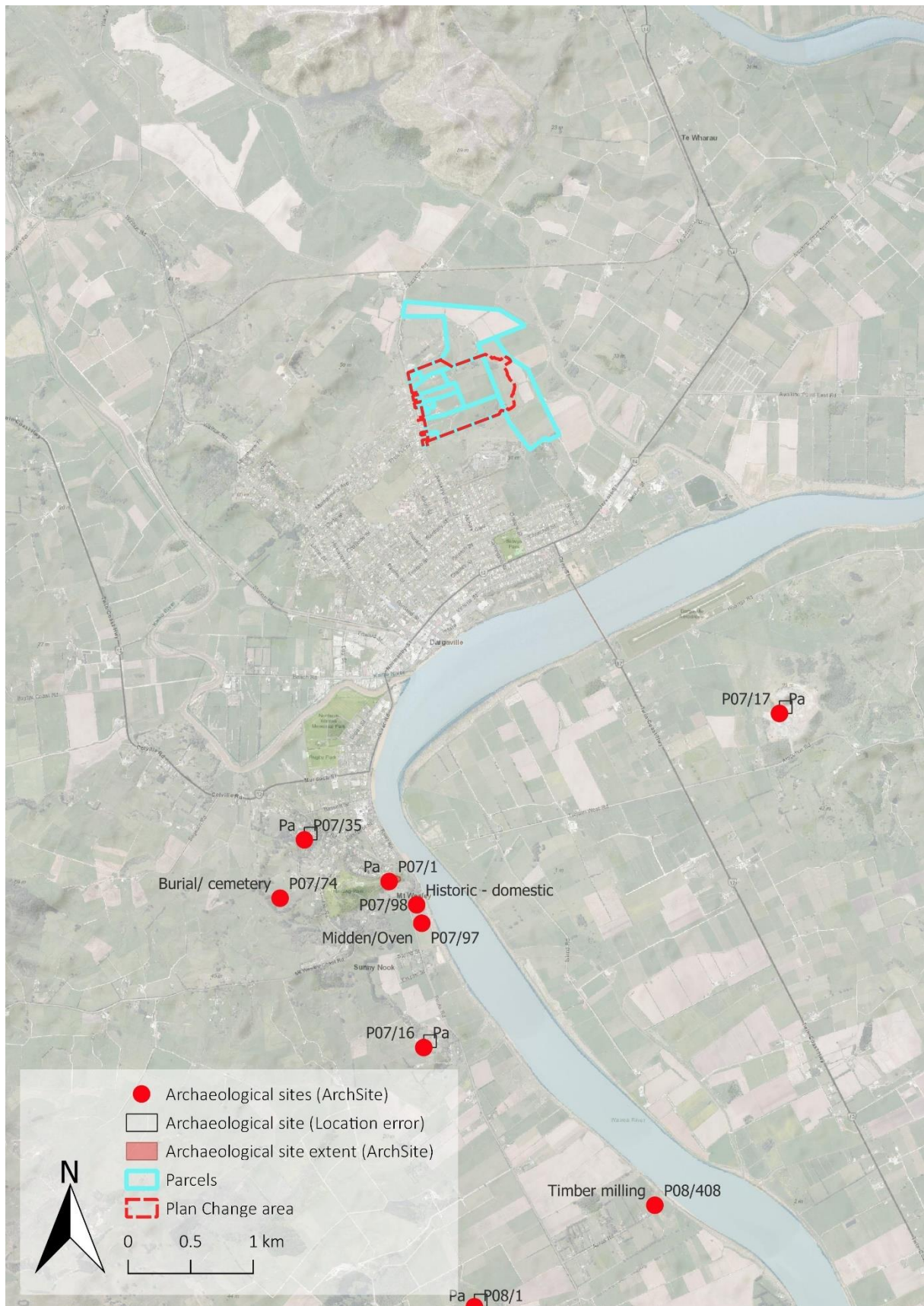


Figure 4: Archaeological sites in the Dargaville area.

With this in mind, the lack of sites in the vicinity of the Plan Change area and Dargaville more generally is due to a lack of archaeological survey, rather than an actual absence of sites; in the absence of

development proposals triggering a requirement for survey, only large and obvious sites visible from public places have tended to be recorded and there are no such sites in the area. As a result there has been no archaeological site recording in the Dargaville area.

5.2 Other Heritage Sites and Listings

The Kaipara District Plan Schedules of Sites of Significance to Maori and Heritage Buildings, Sites and Objects, and the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga List of Historic Places, Historic Areas, Wahi Tapu and Wahi Tapu areas were consulted to determine whether there were any scheduled or registered historic places on or in the vicinity of the Plan Change area.

There are no Listed or Scheduled places on or in the vicinity of the Plan Change area.

6.0 Historic Background

The broad history of the Plan Change area is described, with an overview of Maori occupation, followed by the initial settlement of the Dargaville area by Europeans. The history of the Plan Change area is then discussed.

6.1 Maori History

The Plan Change area and Dargaville itself lies within the boundary zone between the rohe of Te Uri o Hau, Te Roroa and the southwestern extent of interests associated with Te Parawhau and the southern iwi/hapu of Whangarei and the upper Wairoa River.

Human settlement north of Dargaville has long been focused in and along the Kaihu River (and other nearby) valleys with fortified pa concentrated along the foothills and villages located near to the rivers and on the valley edges. Settlement was also clustered along the coast wherever land access to the beach was/is available. Other nearby Maori occupation in area was focused around Taharoa (Kai Iwi Lakes) and Maunganui Bluff, as well as along some of the secondary stream valleys and wetlands.

The earliest settlers of the area were Ngāi Tuputupuwhenua people and their successors Ngāti Rangī. mid-16th century land migration by tupuna of modern Kaipara tribes from Muriwhenua through Hokianga, Waipoua/Maunganui (Bluff) and Kaihu to South Kaipara (Hooker 2000: 4).

Te Roroa are descended from the ancestor Manumanu I and his brother Rangitauwawaro, who migrated from Muriwhenua to the Waimamaku valley. There, they and their descendants intermarried with, and brought together, the local peoples of Ngāi Tuputupuwhenua, Te Tini-o-Kui, Te Uri-o-Nuku, Ngāti Ruanui, Ngāti Kahu and Ngāti Tamatea, Ngāti Miru, and other tribes including Ngāti Rangī and Ngāti Ririki.

From the northern Wairoa through Tangiteroria to Mangakahia and Whangarei was the domain of Ngai Tahu, Te Urioroi and Te Parawhau, with ancestral connections to Rahiri of Ngapuhi and marriage connections to Te Uri o Hau and Ngāti Whātua.

Te Uri o Hau are a hapu of Ngāti Whātua, who in ancient times arrived in the canoe Mahuhu-o-Te-Rangi along with Ngāpuhi, both inhabiting the Kaipara area and settling around Pouto and the South Head of Kaipara Harbour. Te Uri o Hau descend from Haumoewaarangi through Hakiputatomuri, who is Te Uri o Hau's founding ancestor while Te Roroa are descended from the ancestor Manumanu I and his brother Rangitauwawaro, who migrated from Muriwhenua to the Waimamaku valley, and spread southwards through Waipoua and the Kaihu to the Wairoa.

Te Uri o Hau came to control the northern part of Kaipara Harbour when Ngāti Whātua expanded south among the resident tribes of Ngāti Awa, Ngāti Ririki and Ngāti Mārua (Taonui, 2017). In 1807 a major

battle occurred between Ngāti Whātua and Ngāpuhi tribes at Moremonui, south of Maunganui Bluff where Ngāti Whātua defeated Ngāpuhi. In 1825, at the battle of Te Ika-a-Ranganui near Kaiwaka, Ngāpuhi had their ultimate revenge against Ngāti Whātua, defeating the southerners and leading to the depopulation of the Kaipara area for a decade.

The conflict between Te Roroa and Nga Puhi from the later 18th and early 19th centuries began a cycle of retribution that continued until the 1830s. Much of the fighting took place in the Kaihu-Opanake-Omamari-Ripiro area. The conflict between Te Roroa and Nga Puhi and Ngati Whatua are relatively well known with comprehensive accounts arising out of the Te Roroa Waitangi Tribunal inquiry (e.g. Hooker 2000; Smith 1910: 40-56; Waitangi Tribunal 1992: 10-16).

6.2 European Arrival

Europeans first arrived in the area in the 1770s when Captain Cook sighted fires burning on the coast of the Northern Peninsula and by the early 1800s sailing ships began to appear in the Kaipara looking for Kauri spars. Soon after, Missionaries began to arrive in the area. Samuel Marsden's journals record that he first visited the area in 1817 and again in 1820. A mission station was built at Okara Point Pa in 1820 and the Reverend Buller operated mission schools in the 1830s and 1840s. The first European traders in sailing ships entered the harbour about 1838, to serve the mission stations and to trade for timber. In the later part of the 19th century the area became more popular with European settlers, partly due to an increase in coastal traders plying the waters between Kaipara, Helensville, and the Manukau.

From the 1870s the rights to the Kaihu valley and surrounding land and its resources including the timber, flax and kauri gum were leased by Maori to businessmen trading in flax, timber and gum. Initially the land remained in Maori ownership but gradually large areas of land were sold or otherwise alienated.

The earliest written description of the Kaihu River valley was provided by English trader Joel Polack who visited Waipoua about 1832. He lived in the Hokianga and Bay of Islands between 1831-1837. In the early 1830s he travelled south from Waipoua with Koruhana and her retinue. She was a niece to the Rangatira Parore Te Āwha, a leader from the area. After an arduous journey by foot down the upper reaches of the Kaihu from the Hokianga, the party reached the navigable part of the river at Otapanihu and took to canoes for the rest of the journey down the river, and then along the Wairoa to the Mangakahia. At that time the area was largely abandoned as a result of intertribal conflict and the riverbanks were covered in flax with few large trees to be seen along the lower reaches, with abandoned villages and flax processing houses to be seen, but no people.

The Reverend William Wade also travelled down the Kaihu, in 1842. Upon reaching the Kaihu village at what would become Dargaville, he met Parore at his house, and was then directed to Paora's (Paul's) productive and recently harvested wheat field. There was a chapel in the village, and when Wade took a service, around forty local Maori attended, having heard the ringing of the prayer bell. He states "The land in the immediate neighbourhood of the Kaihu village is level and exceedingly rich; admirably adapted for cultivation. Further on, the scene changes to barren hills and swamps, with here and there a patch of wooded land, and some kauri. In travelling through New Zealand, you must often encounter swamps of greater or less extent, covered with raupo, or korari."

Apart from isolated travellers the Northern Wairoa and particularly the Kaihu valley remained relatively isolated from European settlement and influence until after 1870 when Maori first leased (and then later sold) the land. The leases provided out-siders with access to the flax, timber, and kauri gum. By 1870 there thriving towns in other parts of the Kaipara Harbour, including at Aratapu and Te Kopuru to the south, where timber milling and ship building were flourishing industries.

In 1871 the Kaihu Flax Company Limited, acquired a lease to harvest flax from the large Te Roroa owned Kaihu No. 1 block and constructed a flax mill at Flax Mill (modern Parore) in the lower Kaihu River valley.

After the mill was destroyed by fire in 1872 the owners started The New Zealand Fibre Company and rebuilt the mill with new. The company manufactured flax products, including paper, rope, twine, door mats, and roofing felt.

In 1871 an Auckland based businessman, Mr Joseph M. Dargaville, visited the Northern Wairoa and recognising the business potential in the area leased 1.6 ha (4 acres) near to the Kaihu River mouth from local Rangatira Parore Te Āwha. The locality was then known as Kaihu. Here Dargaville opened a store and developed his business trading in timber and kauri gum with Edwin Mitchelson as his local manager.

In 1872 Dargaville purchased the Tunatahi land block of 69 hectares (171 acres) from Parore and others and proceeded to build a private town (later named Dargaville) at the junction of the Kaihu and Wairoa Rivers. In 1876 Dargaville sold part of his timber interests to the Union Sash and Door Company. Edwin Mitchelson took over Dargaville's other businesses, founding E. Mitchelson and Company with brothers Richard and John and developed a large trade in timber and kauri gum.

6.3 Parore Te Āwha and the Kaihu 2 Block

The Plan Change area is within what was the Kaihu No. 2 Block, granted to Parore Te Āwha in 1877 (Maori Land Court Kaipara Minute Book 3: 203-280; Hooker 2000: 185). The approximately 11,000 acre block extended from the Kaihu River eastwards and south to the Wairoa River, and north for approximately 14km up the Kaihu Valley. Te Roroa chief Tiopira Kinaki had originally opposed Parore's claim, but ultimately withdrew his own claim and allowed the block to be granted to Parore, along with Ani Patene, the wife of Piraka Ngai, and her son Haimona Piraka. The Patene/Piriaka claim was probably through her Ngāti Rangi and Te Tau whakapapa (Hooker 2000: 69, 185; Kaipara Minute Book No.3: 203, 280). Parore was in regular dispute with other Te Roroa chiefs over land titles in the Native Land Court.

Parore Te Āwha, of the hapū Te Kuihi, was born at Mangakāhia, probably sometime in the 1790s. Through his father, Toretumua Te Āwha, he was descended from the high chief Toa of Te Roroa, kin of Ngāti Whātua, whose grandson Taramainuku adopted the hapū name Te Kuihi, and from the renowned Ngāpuhi chief Te Ponaharakeke of Ngāti Ruangaio. His mother, Pēhirangi, was a grand-daughter of Te Whakaaria, a famous Ngāpuhi leader of Ngāi Tāwake and Ngāti Tautahi and close kin of Hongi Hika (Hooker 1993).

As a child Parore was taken by his parents to Kaihū. Here he lived until his mother's cousin Pōkaia, having determined to attack Te Roroa, took Pēhirangi and her children to Kaikohe for safety. Parore probably spent his formative years there. By 1821 he was living at Whāngārei with his principal wife, Tāwera, the daughter of Te Kuihi warrior chief Kūkupa. This was an important alliance, for Tāwera was also the half-sister of the chiefs Te Tirarau and Te Ihi.

In the early 1820s attacks against Ngāpuhi by Ngāti Maru led Parore, Tāwera and Kūkupa to take up residence in the isolated Waipoua valley. Their presence there was not welcomed by Te Roroa, living to the south at Maunganui Bluff and Ōpanake in the Kaihū valley. In late 1824 or early 1825 Parore, warned of the impending arrival of a Ngāpuhi war party under Hongi Hika, went to Te Kōpuru. Ngāpuhi and Te Roroa gathered together, and the former were dissuaded from invading Te Roroa territory. Parore later participated in Pōmare I's ill-fated invasion of Waikato. However, he never achieved fame as a warrior.

In 1831 the trader J. S. Polack visited Parore's pā, Te Kauri, at Waipoua, where he described Parore as 'in the prime of life, possessing a countenance remarkably pleasing; his stature was tall and commanding, and, although not outwardly distinguished from his companions by any peculiarities of dress, yet he had an air at once noble and dignified, from the habitual exercise of authority.' Polack also met Parore's senior wife, whom he described as 'a personification of health, mirth, and kindness.' Parore revealed to the trader a keen desire to reap the economic benefits of Pākehā settlement in his area. He expressed his concern over a letter, possibly written by Thomas McDonnell of Hōreke, threatening to

take the trade of flax and spars into his own hands. Parore was at this time already engaged in trading flax at Kaihū, and in the spar trade at Hokianga.

About 1836, following fighting with Te Roroa at Waipoua, Parore left the area and settled for some time at Kaipara Harbour. With the sale of some land to a Cornishman, George Hawke, he commenced a pattern of settling Pākehā on tribal lands. In 1838 he was residing at Te Houhanga (Hoanga), where he sought to take advantage of trading opportunities. He agreed to sell 1,000 acres in the Kaihū valley to Richard Day acting on behalf of Irish settlers. Parore embraced both the religion and farming practices of the Pākehā. He was visited at Kaihū in 1838 by the CMS missionary William Wade, who recorded both a chapel and a wheat field at Parore's settlement. Later a missionary cottage, used by the Wesleyan James Buller, was added.

Parore was invited to sign the 1835 Declaration of the Independence of New Zealand, which he did on 25 June 1837. He was one of only two chiefs invited from the area from the Bay of Islands to Auckland, the other being his brother-in-law, Te Tirarau. In 1840 he probably deputed his son, Te Ahu Parore, to sign the Treaty of Waitangi on 6 February. During the northern war Parore was credited with preventing an attack on Auckland by Kawiti's forces.

The 1870s saw Parore, now living at Mangawhare, engaged in a number of Native Land Court disputes with his Te Roroa and Ngāti Whātua relatives. These concerned Te Roroa ancestral lands in the Kaihū valley and at Maunganui Bluff and Waipoua, and his participation in widespread sales of land to the Crown. With Te Roroa and Ngāti Whātua he joined in the sale of the Tunatahi block, later the site of the town of Dargaville, to J. M. Dargaville, and leased land at Kaihū for flax processing. In this period he also lobbied for Government schools in the district and was an active Wesleyan, building a church in his settlement about 1875.

In 1882 he funded the unsuccessful mission led by Hirini Taiwhanga to present a Ngāpuhi petition to Queen Victoria, requesting a royal commission be appointed to investigate treaty breaches, and that authority be given for the establishment of a Māori parliament.

Parore Te Āwha was described by surveyor and ethnologist S. Percy Smith as 'a fine stalwart man, beautifully tattooed, whose mana over his people was very great.' He died on 24 September 1887, and was buried at Te Wharau with much ceremony. He was succeeded by his grandson, Pouaka Parore, the son of Waata (Walter) Parore.

Survey plan ML 3509/B (1889) is the survey of the Kaihu No.2 Block, with the subject property falling in the approximate centre of the wide, southern portion of the block. To the north is the original boundary of Kaihu 2B and to the south is Kaihu 2D, with Kaihu 2A immediately north of the Tunutahi Block where central Dargaville lies, Kaihu 2A being the vicinity of the Maori kainga of Parore.

The same year, the Kaihu No.2 D Block was surveyed out for Pouaka Te Awha, being 734 acres running along the Wairoa River frontage from the Te Whapu Stream in the vicinity of Parore and Gladstone St east to the Awakino, and north to Dargaville Highschool. In 1890 Kaihu 2D was subdivided and took on the form of central Dargaville present today.

In 1889-1890, the Dargaville-Tangiteroria Road (which would become Awakino Road) was surveyed through the Kaihu 2D and 2B Blocks. Surveyor Frank Hosking received his warrant to undertake the survey in late December of 1889 and was finished by late May 1890. By 1898, three miles of road had been completed, along with one 40 foot long bridge over the Awakino.



Figure 5: Parore Te Āwha.

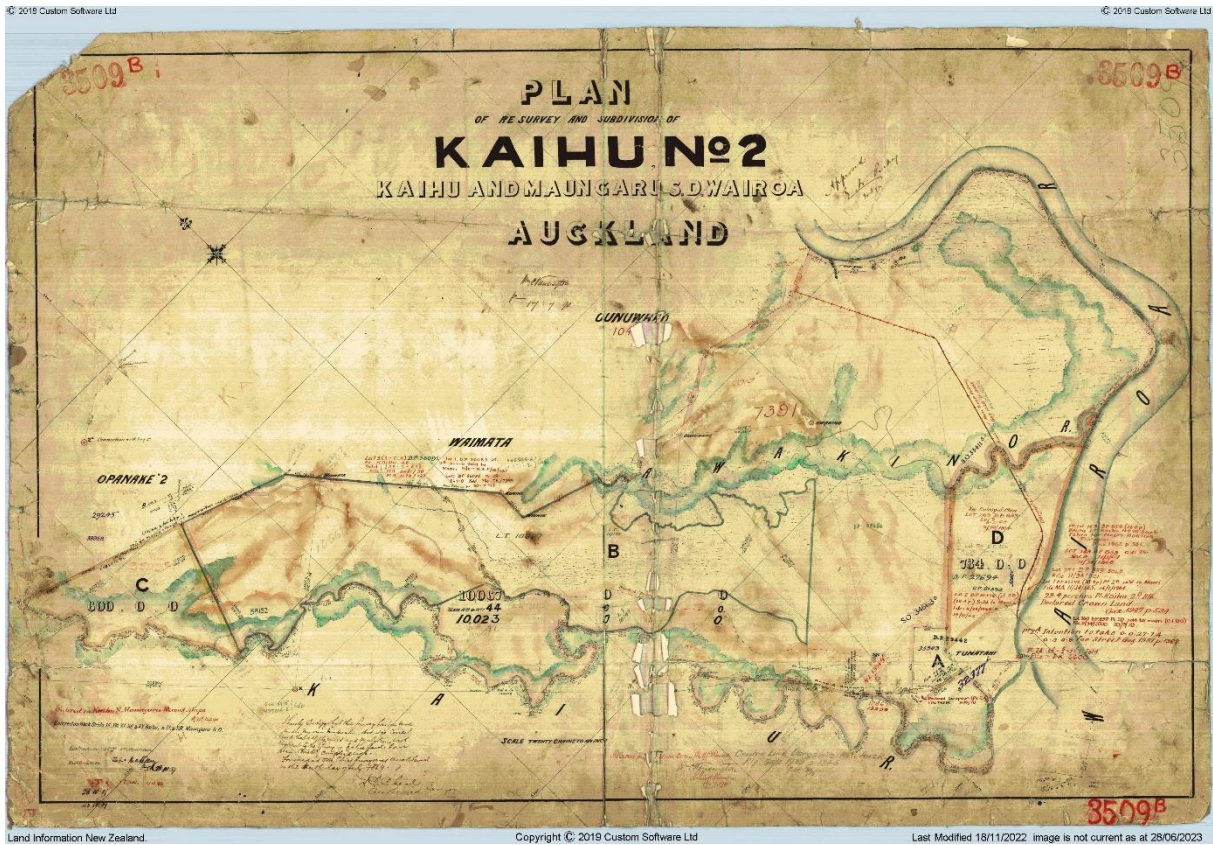


Figure 6: ML3509/B (1889).

In 1893, Frank (Francis) J. Dargaville had 64 acres of Pt Kaihu 2B surveyed DP 1329 (1893), being the flats between the Awakino River and the slope up to the level ground to the west, the easternmost part of the Plan Change area. Francis was the son of Joseph Dargaville, and was mayor in his own right from 1910, Hobson County Council from 1891. He established the first newspaper in town in 1888. He retired in 1917 and died in 1930 (New Zealand Herald, 29 July 1930).

In 1894, William Archibald Spiers had the Pt Kaihu 2B Block surveyed. DP 1322 (1894) shows the survey of the 130 acre 2 rood block which covers most of the Plan Change area apart from the eastern slopes. The plan was annexed to a Deed of Transfer signed by Pouaka Te Awha and Pouritanga Te Awha making the land over to Spiers on 28 August 1894; the plan is signed by both Te Awha. Pouaka (Waata) was the grandson of Parore Te Awha and Pouritanga (Waata) Te Awha.

In 1904, Pouaka Te Awha and Pouritanga Te Hau had the southern part of Kaihu 2B, Kaihu 2B2 and 2B3 between Kaihu 2A and the Dargaville-Tangiteroria Road (Awakino Road) surveyed, as shown on ML 7141 and ML 7142. These plans show the owner's houses adjacent to the Kaihu River along with tracks up the Kaihu Valley and towards the Wairoa/Tangiteroria but no legible information on the plan change area. In the same year, SO 13274 shows Pouritanga Te Hau owning Kaihu 2B2, Pouaka Parore Kaihu 2B3, Haimona Pirika owning Kaihu 2A, Oliver Nicholson as Trustee for Kaihu 2D and the Tunatahi Block, and E. Mitchelson owning the Kaihu 2B block on the north side of 2B2.

In 1908, the Maori owners of the Kaihu 2B No.3 block west of Awakino Road requested that the Native Land Commission allow them to sell that land, apparently suitable for residential allotments and with a £450 mortgage on it payable on 1 May 1909, by auction (AJHR, 1909 Session I, G-01f: 1).

In 1912, the Speirs (sic) Brothers surveyed out 105 acres of the original 130 acre block purchased by their father, as shown on DP 7836.

In 1916, H. G. Spiers surveyed out 7 acres of the Pt Kaihu 2B block to the north of the Plan Change area. It was described as undulating land covered with tea tree, and while the road frontage and perpendicular boundaries were fenced in post and wire, the eastern and northern boundaries weren't.

In 1918, H. Spiers subdivided the 78 acre Pt Kaihu 2B Block, from north to south the 14 acre Lot 1, 78 acre Lot 2 which comprised the level ground, 27 acre Lot 3 over the southern valley, and 10 acre Lot 4 in the south west corner adjacent to the road. Survey plan DP 12535 shows the subdivision, with the level ground described as a "Teatree Terrace" and the southern valley and feeder water courses in rushes. The plan change area is almost entirely located on what was Lot 1 and Lot 2.

In 1920, T. M. Hammond had the land on the western side of Awakino Road, Pt Kaihu 2B3 surveyed for subdivision. It was described as undulating gum land in tea tree. This was the land that the Maori owners had requested to sell in 1908.

The Plan Change area more or less took on its current form in the years after World War II, with the dozen small house lots one rood in size along Awakino Road subdivided off in 1948 (DP 36083) with four larger lots to remain farmland to the east from four to 35 acres in size. In 1958, with the survey of Pt Kaihu 2B DP 48656 (1958) reorganised the larger rear farm lots.

Spiers was born in Perthshire, Scotland in 1848, and educated at home. He served his time with his father, who was well known in the building trade in Perthshire. In 1872, he came to Sydney by the ship "Holmesdale" and after a short time went to Fiji, where his brother had been killed, and took an active part in suppressing the Kai Colo (the inland clans) opposition to the white settlers who established cotton plantations in Fiji after the American Civil War, and their local ally and putative paramount (coastal) chief Cakobau. Spiers remained in Fiji for about two years, during which time he built the first bank in Levuka for the Fiji Banking Company, afterwards taken over by the Bank of New Zealand.

In 1874, Mr. Spiers came to New Zealand, went to Kaipara, then travelled south to Dunedin, where he remained in business as a builder for two years, after which he returned north and settled in Dargaville. Most of the township was built by him, with many of the first buildings a result of his workmanship. Mr. Spiers was chairman of the Hobson County Council; chairman of the Dargaville School Committee for six years; member of the licensing bench; chairman and treasurer of the racing club; and treasurer of St. George's Foresters' Court. He was a well-known Highland dancer and won a number of medals, one being by the Prince of Wales at the Crystal Palace in London, and he has also danced before Lord Glasgow in New Zealand. At the time of his purchase of the Kaihu 2B land he was married and had three children (The Cyclopaedia of New Zealand, 1902: 624).

6.4 Review of Historical Sources

No archaeological or historic heritage sites or features have been identified based on the recorded history of the Plan Change area and a review of historic maps, plans and imagery. The Plan Change area was part of the Kaihu No. 2 Block and remained in Maori ownership until the mid-1890s, but Maori settlement until that time was based on the western side of the block on the north bank of the Kaihu River outfall to the Wairoa. The early centre of European settlement was at Mangawhare on the south side of the Kaihu outfall and at Tunatahi on the north side of the Kaihu outfall. The historic and early modern town of Dargaville spread eastwards from Tunatahi and took on its modern form in the vicinity of the Dargaville-Tangiteroria/Awakino Road after 1890. Around this time construction of the Dargaville-Tangiteroria Road began in this period, and had extended beyond the Plan Change area by 1898.

Prominent settler William Archibald Spiers purchased the Plan Change area from Pouaka Te Awha in 1894, seven years after his grandfather the Rangatira Parore had passed on. The Spiers family owned the land into the early 20th century and subdivided it after World War One, but there is no indication of it being anything other than waste land in manuka/kanuka scrub until that time. By the late 1920s, there were a few houses present on the eastern side of the road south of the Plan Change area, and a municipal sewage farm, now the KDC transfer station property to the north. From 1948 the ribbon of houses on the east side of the road developed and by 1950 the flat ground to the rear which makes up the bulk of the Plan Change area had been broken in for farming, but the slopes were still in rank grass and scrub based on aerial imagery.



MR. W. A. SPIERS.

Figure 7: William Archibald Spiers (The Cyclopaedia of New Zealand, 1902: 624).

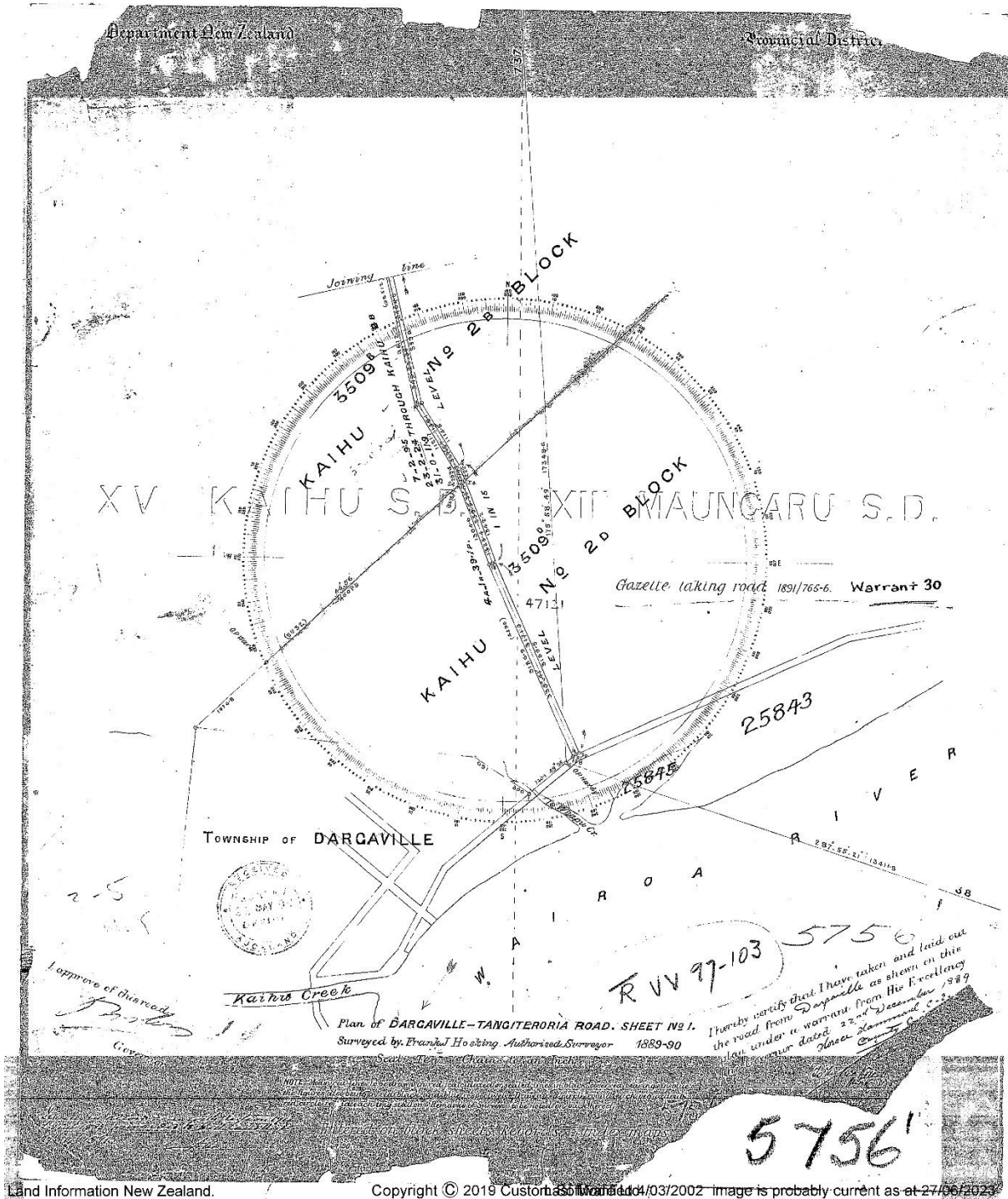
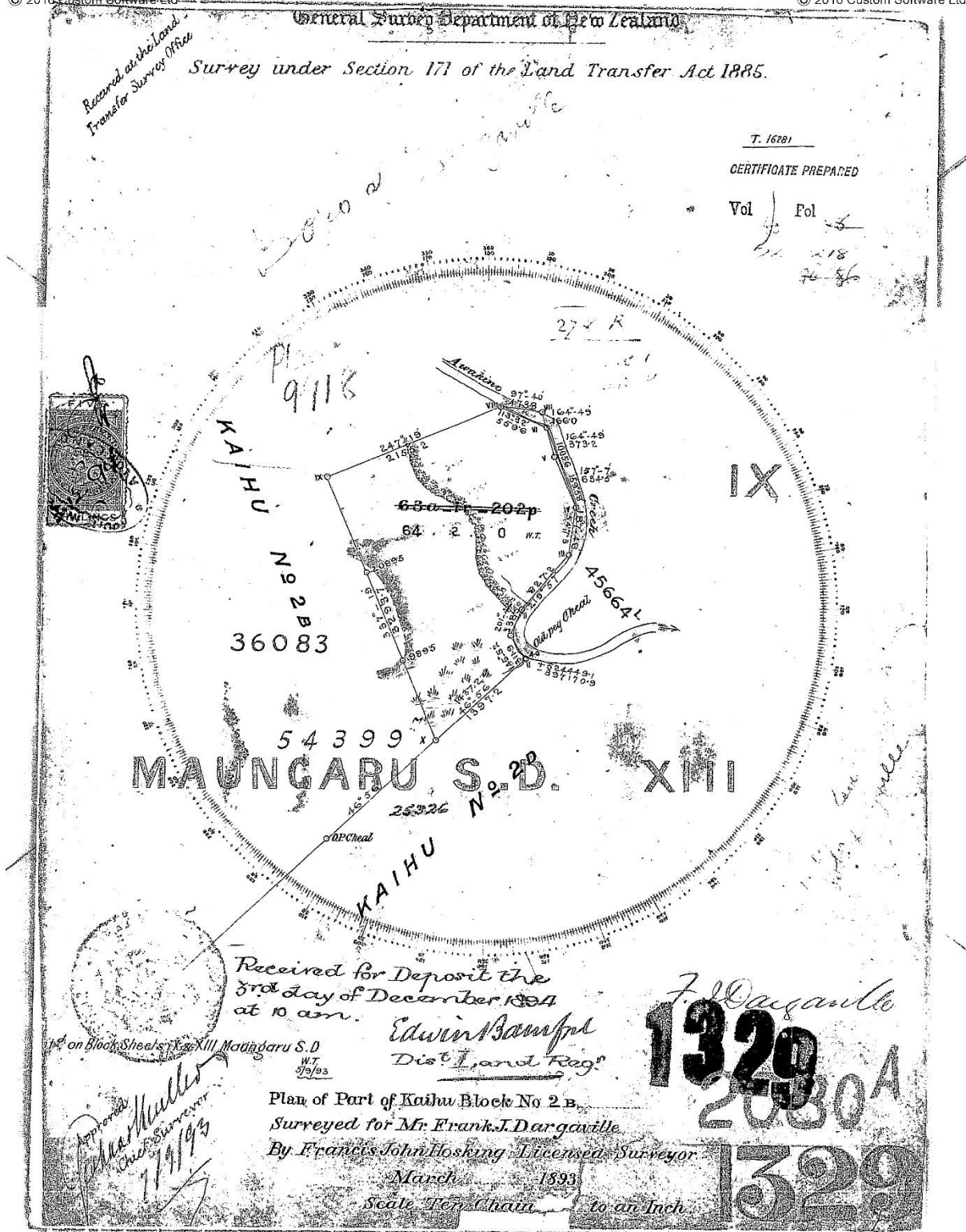


Figure 9: SO 5762/1 (1890) showing survey of Dargaville-Tangiteroria (Awakino) Road on the southern side of the Plan Change area.



Land Information New Zealand.

Copyright © 2019 Custom Software Ltd. Image is probably current as at 27/06/2023

Figure 10: DP 1329 (1893) showing survey of part of Kaihu 2B, the eastern slopes of the Plan Change area.

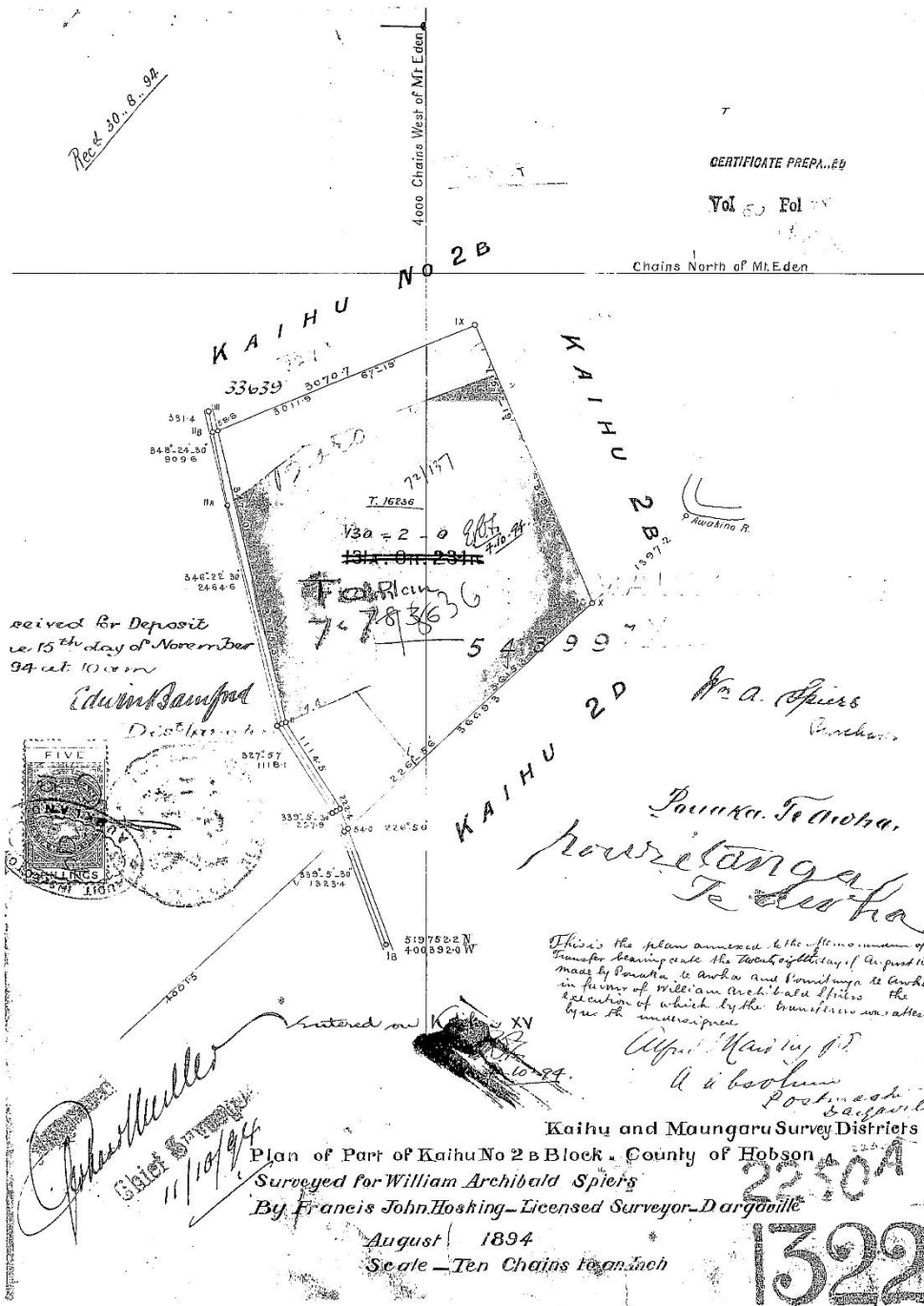


Figure 11: DP 1322 (1894) showing survey of the 130 acre Pt Kaihu 2B Block, encompassing most of the Plan Change area apart from the eastern slopes, for William Archibald Spiers (note the later annotation regarding DP 7386, where 105 acres was surveyed out in 1912).

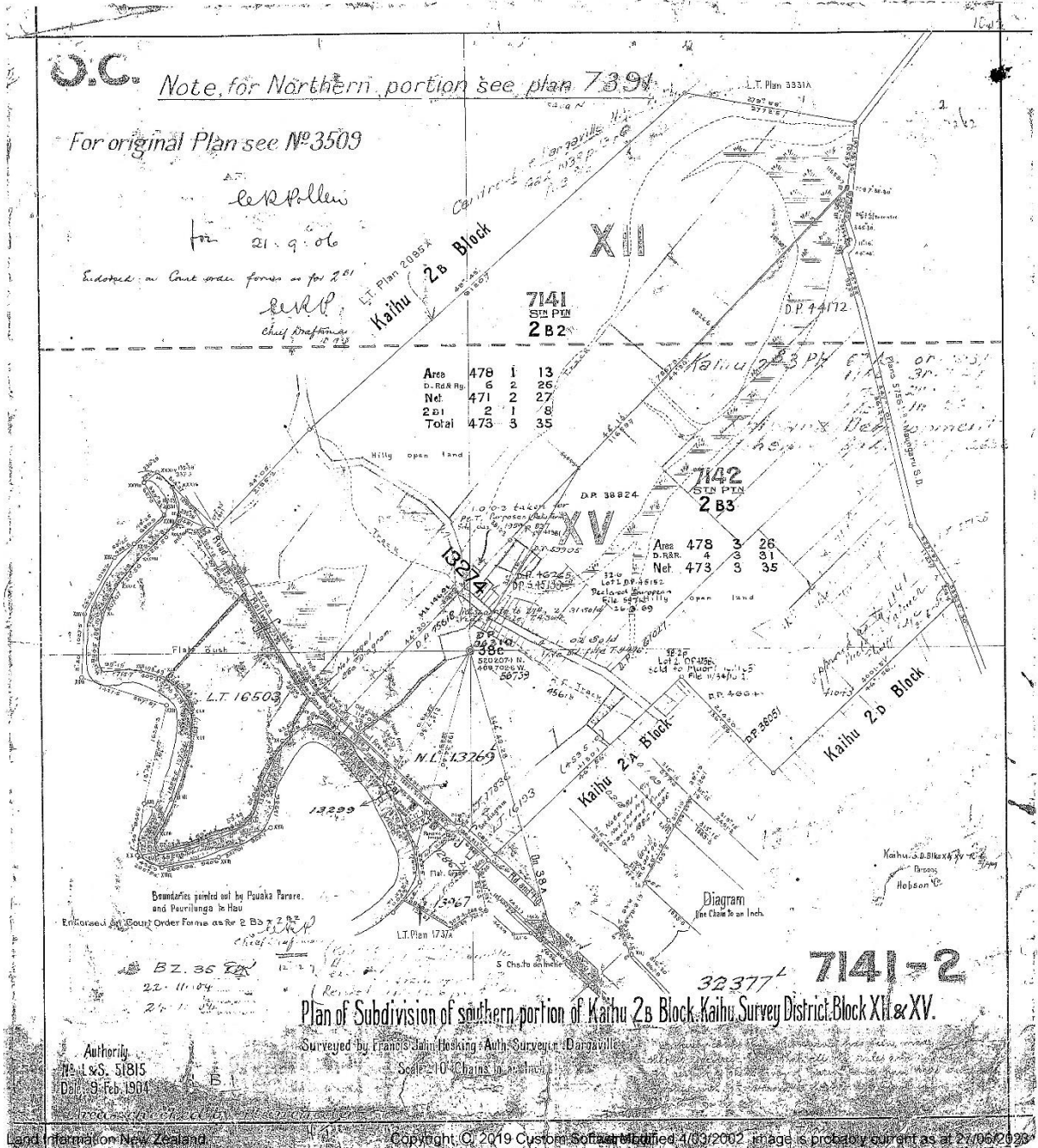
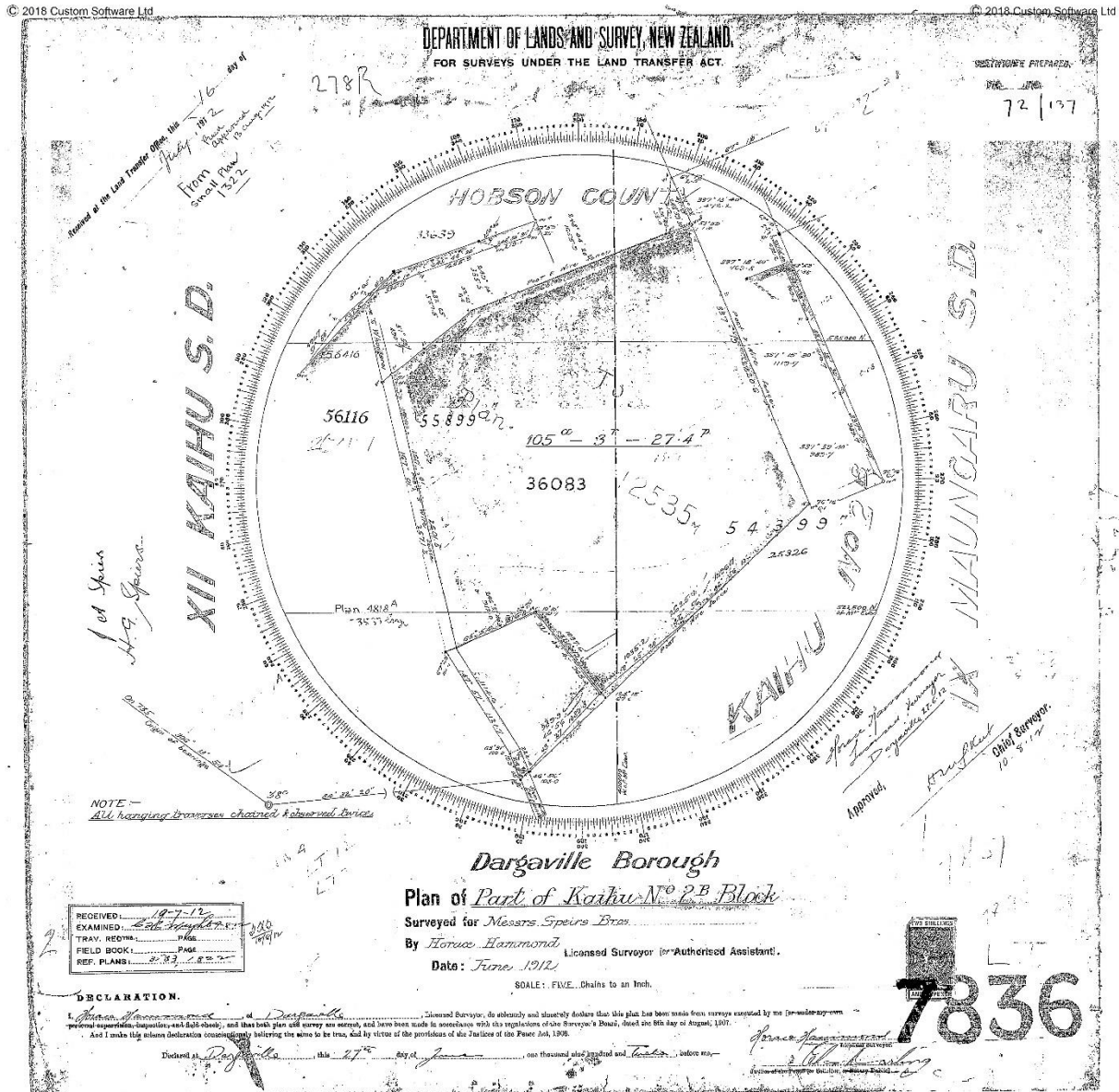


Figure 12: ML 7142 (1904) showing subdivision of southern part of Kaihu 2B including 2B3 on the west side of Awakino Road, for the Maori owners.



Land Information New Zealand. Copyright © 2019 Custom Software Ltd. Last Modified 27/02/2002 image is probably current as at 27/06/2023

Figure 13: DP 7836 (1912) for the Speirs (sic) Brothers, subdividing off 105 acres on the southern part.

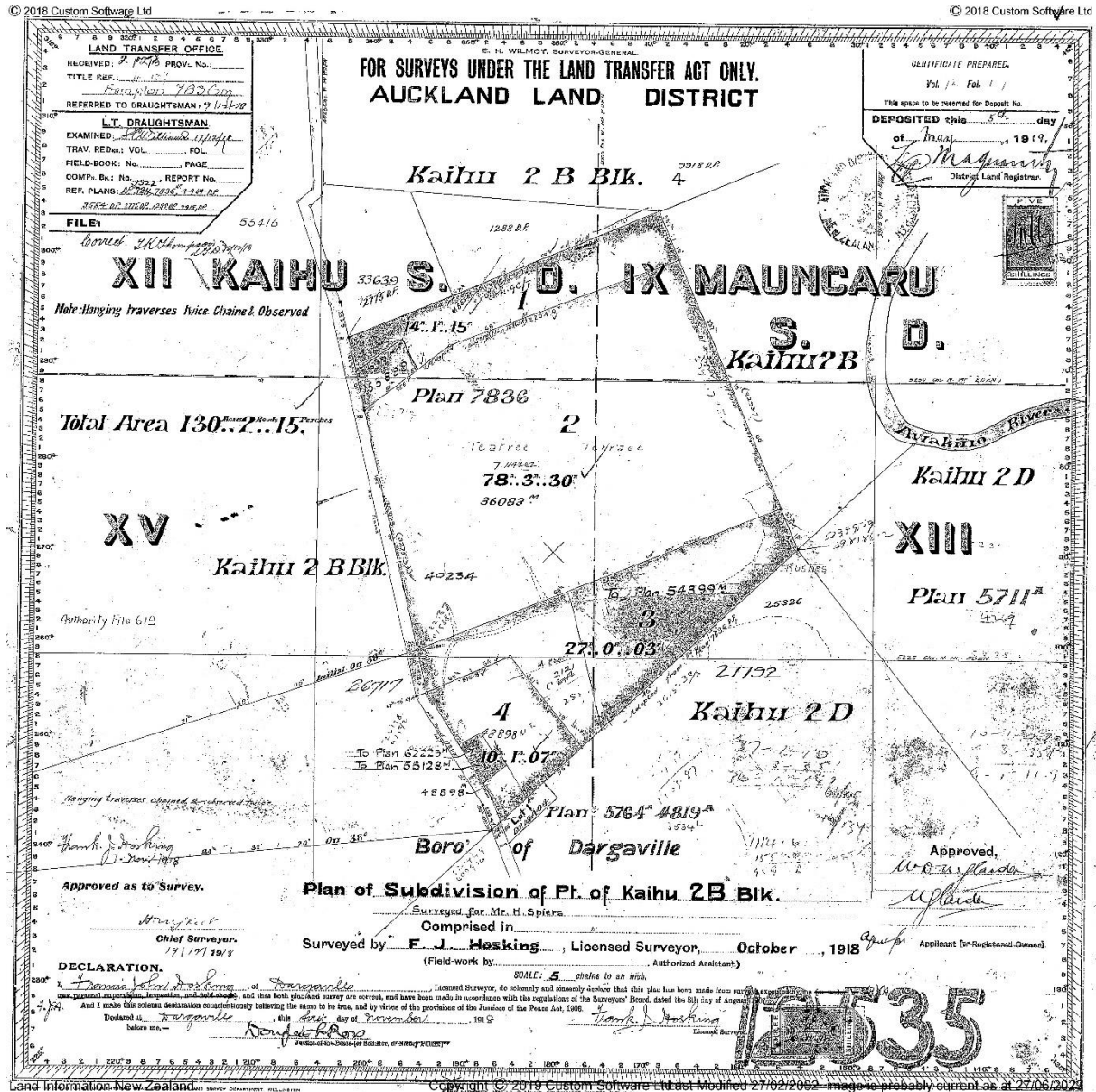


Figure 14: DP 12535 (1918) showing the division of Kaihu 2B for H. Spiers.

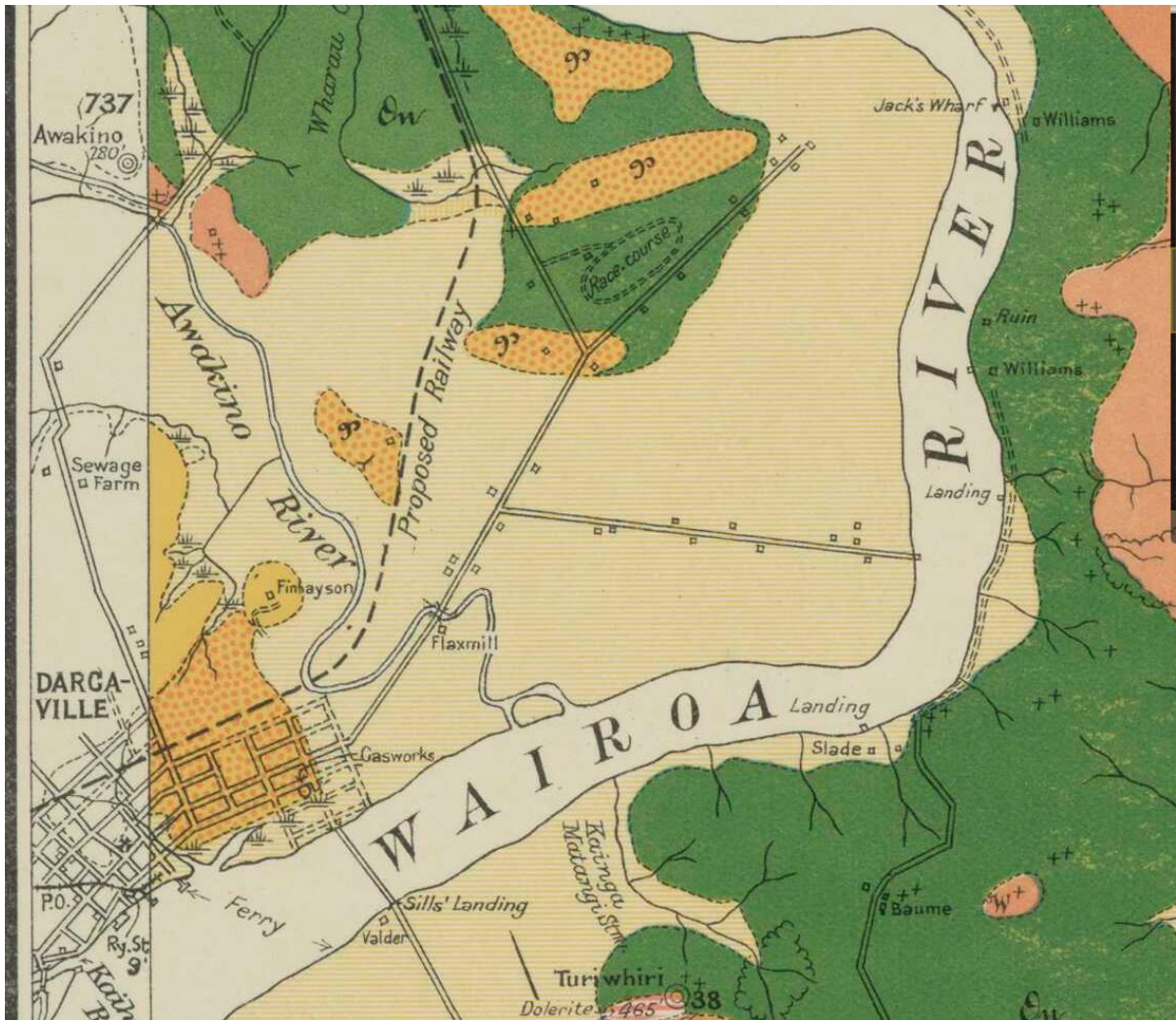


Figure 15: Detail from Geological Survey of the Maungaru District (Harris 1928); note sewerage plant to the north of the Plan Change area, and houses to the south.

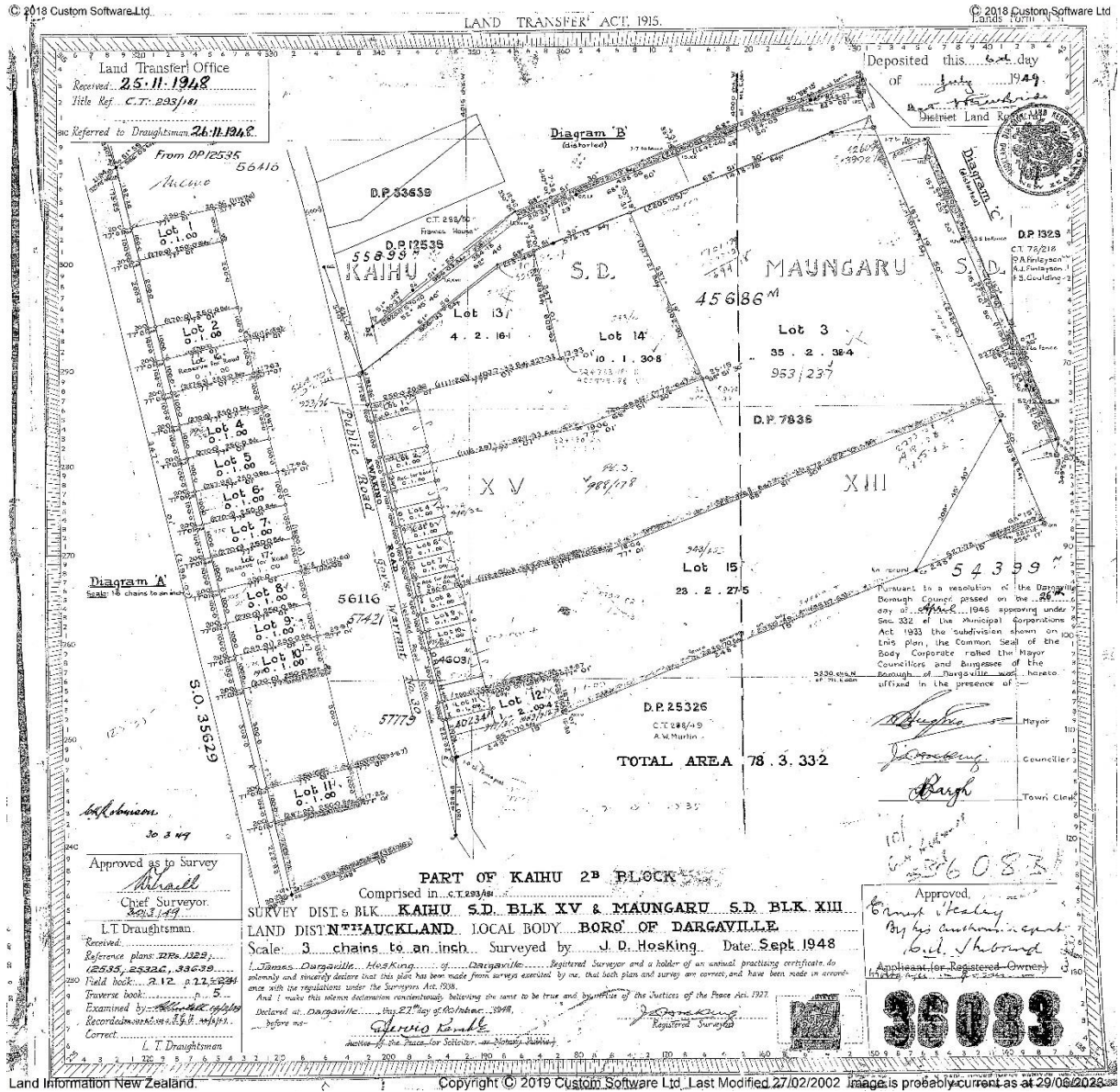


Figure 16: DP 36083 (1948) showing subdivision of residential lots along Awakino Road, and establishment of rear farm lots.



Figure 17: Aerial SN 727-7A (1950; Retrolens).

7.0 Site Visit

The Plan Change area was visited over half a day on 28 June 2023. The weather was overcast with occasional heavy squalls. The site visit focused on the edges of the level ground and slopes below, with several traverses across the flat country, as this was considered to be the most likely landform where archaeological features might be identifiable on the existing ground surface.

Conditions for survey were excellent with the area inspected being in short, grazed or recently grazed grass. The assessment began on northern boundary and proceeded in a clockwise fashion around the Plan Change area to the centre of the southern boundary, then across the flats. The southwestern corner and the stream and gully which runs almost from the centre of the property to the southern boundary was accessed via Awakino Road.



Figure 18: Looking east across the northern slopes of the Plan Change area.



Figure 19: Looking southeast towards the Awakino on the north eastern side of the plan change area.



Figure 20: Looking north across the eastern slopes of the Plan Change area.



Figure 21: Looking west across the southern slopes of the Plan Change area.



Figure 22: Looking east across the southern slopes of the Plan Change area.



Figure 23: Looking north across the level ground towards the centre of the plan change area.



Figure 24: Looking west towards possible site (circled red).



Figure 25: Possible pit (purple outline) and terrace (green outline) near the southern boundary.

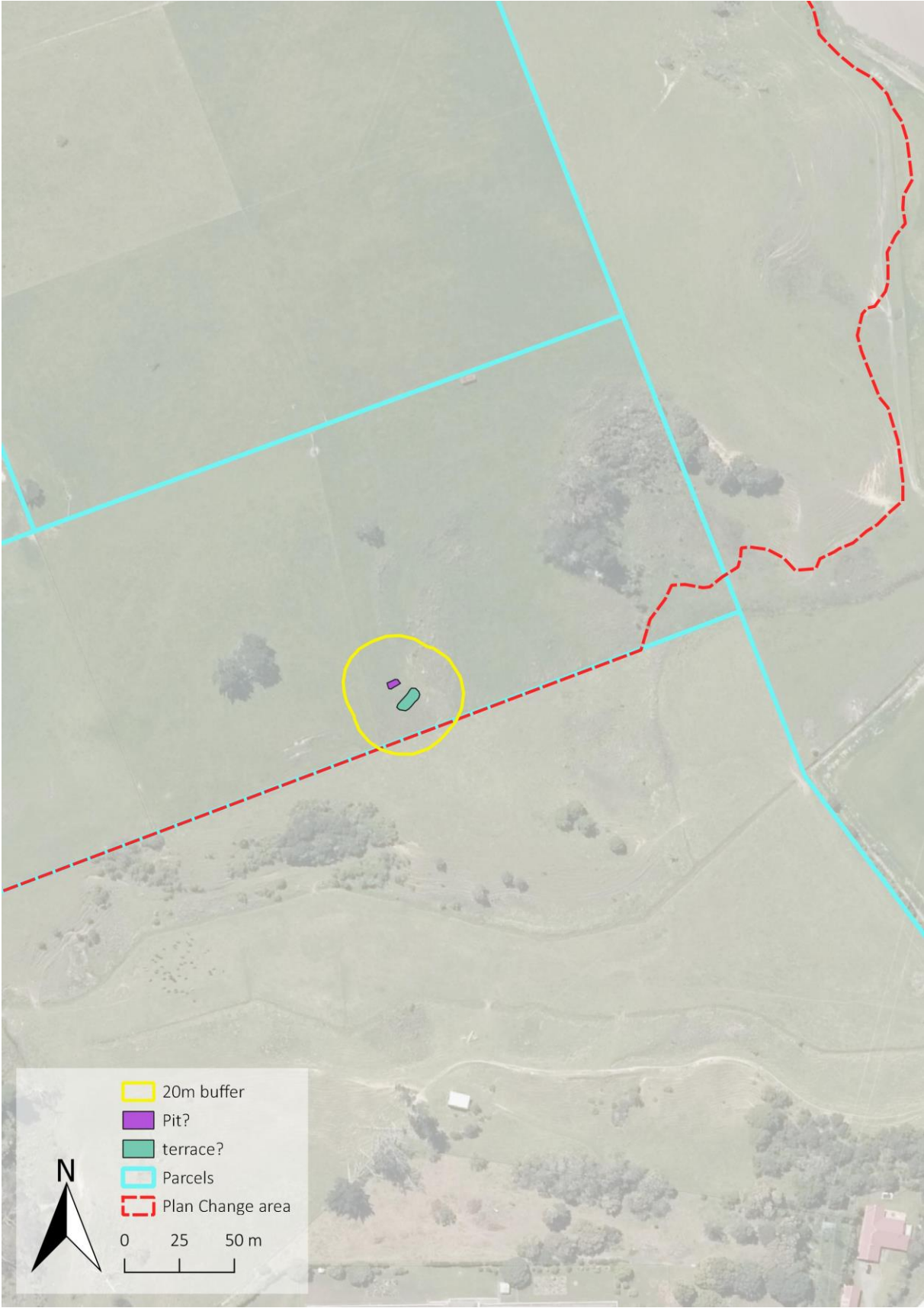


Figure 26: Possible pit and terrace in southeast corner of Plan Change area.

A single possible archaeological sites was located near the southern boundary, at the top of a southeast facing descending spur. The site comprised one possible rectangular storage pit 3 x 1.5 x 0.3m deep and oriented approximately south west to north east on the edge of the level ground, with a possible terrace 8 x 3 with a rear scarp up to 1.5m high immediately below to the south east. Approximately 15m to the west is a post and wire fence running north to south, while the eastern side of the site drops away steeply into an eroding gully. The feature is not visible in the 1950 aerial as the slope appears to be covered in rank vegetation at that time, and is barely visible in recent aerial imagery. No other features of this nature were observed in the Plan Change area, and if it proves to be Maori/prehistoric it is likely to be an isolated habitation complex associated with nearby kumara cultivation.

The features are located at Easting 1678914 Northing 6023972 (NZTM). It has been recorded as archaeological site P07/108.

None of the extant houses in the Plan Change area along the eastern side of the Awakino Road frontage appear to predate the inter-war period of the 20th century, and they are unlikely to have any historic heritage value.

8.0 Significance Assessment

A preliminary assessment of the features has been undertaken. It is assessed as being of moderate archaeological significance (assuming it is archaeological).

The possible occupation terrace and pit are moderately well-defined, and are a relatively rare form of site in the wider Dargaville area. It may have information potential in the form of subsurface features amenable to archaeological investigation. Tangata Whenua are likely to view it as significant.

Table 1: Significance assessment of possible Maori occupation terrace and pit P07/108.

Significance Category	Value	Comment
Integrity, Condition and Information Potential	Moderate	The features are in moderate condition but may not be archaeological. It may be an occupation terrace and storage pit associated with pre- or protohistoric Maori occupation. The feature has been modified by stock trampling, with a farm fence on the western side and a large slip to the east. Subsurface features with information potential may be present.
Diversity	Low-moderate	The site comprises one possible pit at the top of a small spur, with a terrace below If the features are associated with Maori occupation, associated subsurface features may be present within or adjacent to the surface features and may include postholes from structures, lithic artefacts from food preparation, shell midden and cooking/heating features.
Rarity and Uniqueness	Moderate	There are few Maori archaeological sites recorded in the Dargaville area, despite the well attested historic occupation of the Kaihu River mouth.
Archaeological Context	Low	The site may relate to the pre- or protohistoric Maori occupation of the area. Regardless there are no other associated sites nearby which might provide more context.

Landscape Context and Amenity Value	Low	The site is not visible in the wider landscape and has no landscape or amenity value.
Historical Associations and Community Connections	Low	The site does not have any particular association with historic events or people aside. If they prove to be of Maori origin they will likely be of significance to the Tangata Whenua.

9.0 Assessment of Effects

Archaeological and historic heritage effects from the proposed Awakino Road Plan Change are unlikely.

Historic-period Maori occupation in the Dargaville/Kaihu Valley area was concentrated near the Kaihu River outfall to the Wairoa, and pre- and proto historic Maori occupation stretched extended northwards along the Kaihu and west towards the dune lakes and west coast; no sites are recorded on the north/west bank of the Wairoa above Dargaville.

Historic European occupation is recorded at Mangawhare and Tunatahi either side of the Kaihu outfall, and extended east along the Wairoa River frontage in the late 19th century. While the Dargaville-Tangiteroria Road/Awakino Road was surveyed and constructed along the western side of the Plan Change area in 1889-1898 and Frank Dargaille and William Archibald Spiers purchased the land encompassing the Plan Change area in 1893 and 1894, there is no indication of any European occupation or activity apart from vegetation clearance and fencing until the first decades of the 20th century.

9.1 Effects on Potential Unrecorded and/or Subsurface Archaeological Features

The development of roading, services, residential lots and community facilities are unlikely to modify, damage or destroy unrecorded subsurface archaeological sites and features in the Plan Change area. Such features are considered unlikely to be present based on the location of known sites and the history of the area, and the field assessment.

If any such features are present they are unlikely to be identified prior to large scale topsoil stripping, due to modification of the ground surface from more than 100 years of pastoral farming. They are most likely to be identified during stripping for site establishment (preparing yards, hardstands, sediment, roading, services and house sites). Given the low probability of such features being present, an accidental discovery protocol should be in place during any earthworks but there is not sufficient cause to suspect other sites are present and the consequent need for an archaeological Authority.

9.2 Effects on Possible Occupation Terrace and Storage Pit P07/108

The possible terrace and pit are on the southeastern side of the Plan Change area proposed for residential land use. Residential development may affect these features if they are not protected by a suitable no-build buffer. The features are at the top of a spur and on the edge of a slip-prone gully. They are likely to be from an isolated occupation and extensive subsurface features away from the immediate vicinity of the observed surface features are unlikely.

9.3 Other Historic Heritage Effects

There are no effects from the proposed Plan Change on any scheduled historic places or sites of significance to Maori in the Kaipara District Plan. There are no effects on Lister historic places or wahi tapu on the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga List.

There are no other identified effects on historic heritage from the proposed Private Plan Change.

10.0 Findings and Recommendations

- 1) A single, small potential archaeological site comprising two features has been identified in the Plan Change area.
- 2) The site is assessed as being of low to moderate archaeological significance.
- 3) A 20m buffer should be placed around the features with a no-build covenant in order to protect them from harm, and any development proposal for that area will require further assessment and potentially an archaeological Authority if it is to be modified.
- 4) Other archaeological sites or features are unlikely to be modified by the rezoning, subdivision and development of the Plan Change area and works may proceed under an accidental discovery protocol.
- 4) There are unlikely to be unrecorded archaeological or heritage features of high significance in the Plan Change area, and overall development of the Plan Change area is likely to have less than minor or no adverse effects on historic heritage.
- 5) An archaeological Authority under the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014 is not required, and any works in the Plan Change area may proceed under an accidental discovery protocol.
- 6) If suspected archaeological remains or buried cultural deposits (layers of shell midden, oven stones, artefacts etc) are encountered in the Plan Change area in the course of any other e.g. farming activities, Moonlight Heights Ltd or their agents should cease work in the immediate vicinity and contact Heritage New Zealand and Geometria Ltd for advice on how to proceed.

11.0 Conclusions

Geometria Ltd was commissioned by Moonlight Heights Ltd to undertake an archaeological assessment of the proposed Awakino Road Private Plan Change.

There are no archaeological or historic heritage impediments to the proposed Private Plan Change and the proposal will have no or less than minor effects on historic heritage.

One small, isolated potential archaeological site was identified and further development of that area should be avoided without further assessment.

An archaeological Authority is not required due to the low likelihood of archaeological effects elsewhere in the Plan Change area and an accidental discovery protocol will suffice.

If archaeological remains or buried cultural deposits (layers of shell midden, oven stones, artefacts etc) are encountered on the property in the course of any other activities on the property, Moonlight Heights Ltd or their agents should cease work in the immediate vicinity and contact Heritage New Zealand and Geometria Ltd for advice on how to proceed.

12.0 References

12.1 Published Sources

- Carpenter, J., 2022. Archaeological Assessment of the Proposed K13B Water Storage Reservoir. Red Hill, Kaipara. Unpublished report for the Te Taitokerau Water Trust. Geometria Ltd, Whangarei.
- Cyclopaedia Company Ltd, 1902. Cyclopaedia of New Zealand. Auckland Provincial District. Cyclopaedia Company Ltd, Christchurch.
- Hooker, G, 2000. Maori, the Crown, and the Northern Wairoa District – A Te Roroa Perspective. Evidence presented to the Waitangi Tribunal for the WAI 262 Inquiry.
- Hooker, G., 1993. 'Parore Te Āwha', Dictionary of New Zealand Biography, first published in 1993. Te Ara - the Encyclopedia of New Zealand, <https://teara.govt.nz/en/biographies/2p8/parore-te-awha> (accessed 29 June 2023).
- Kaipara District Council, 2012. Pou Tu O Te Rangi and Harding Park Reserve Management Plan. for Kaipara District Council, Dargaville.
- Markham, G., and T. Crippen, 1981. Rock Types - Mangakahia-Dargaville. NZMS 290 P06/07. Department of Lands and Survey, Wellington.
- Taylor, M., 2021. An Archaeological Assessment of the Proposed Kaihu Valley Trail. Unpublished report for Kaipara District Council. Archaeology North, Whanganui.
- Taonui, R. (2017) Ngāti Whātua, Te Ara -the Encyclopaedia of New Zealand. Available at: <https://teara.govt.nz/en/ngati-whatua/print> (Accessed: 7 August 2020).
- Waitangi Tribunal, 1992, WAI 32 Te Roroa Report. Brooker and Friend Ltd, Wellington.
- Waitangi Tribunal, 2006. WAI 674 The Kaipara Report. Legislation Direct, Wellington.

12.2 Unpublished Sources, Maps and Plans

DP 6

DP 859

DP 1146

DP 1288

DP 1322

DP 1329

SP 2775

DP 3533

DP 4404

DP 7839

DP 860

DP 958

DP 9918

DP 11390

DP 12535

DP 14532

DP 33639

DP 36083

DP 45686

ML 3509/A

ML 3509/B

ML 7141

ML 7142

ML 9371

SO 2950

SO 5756

SO 13274

Appendix A – Archaeological Site Record Form



Site Record Form

NZAA SITE NUMBER: P07/108

SITE TYPE: Pit/Terrace

SITE NAME(s):

DATE RECORDED:

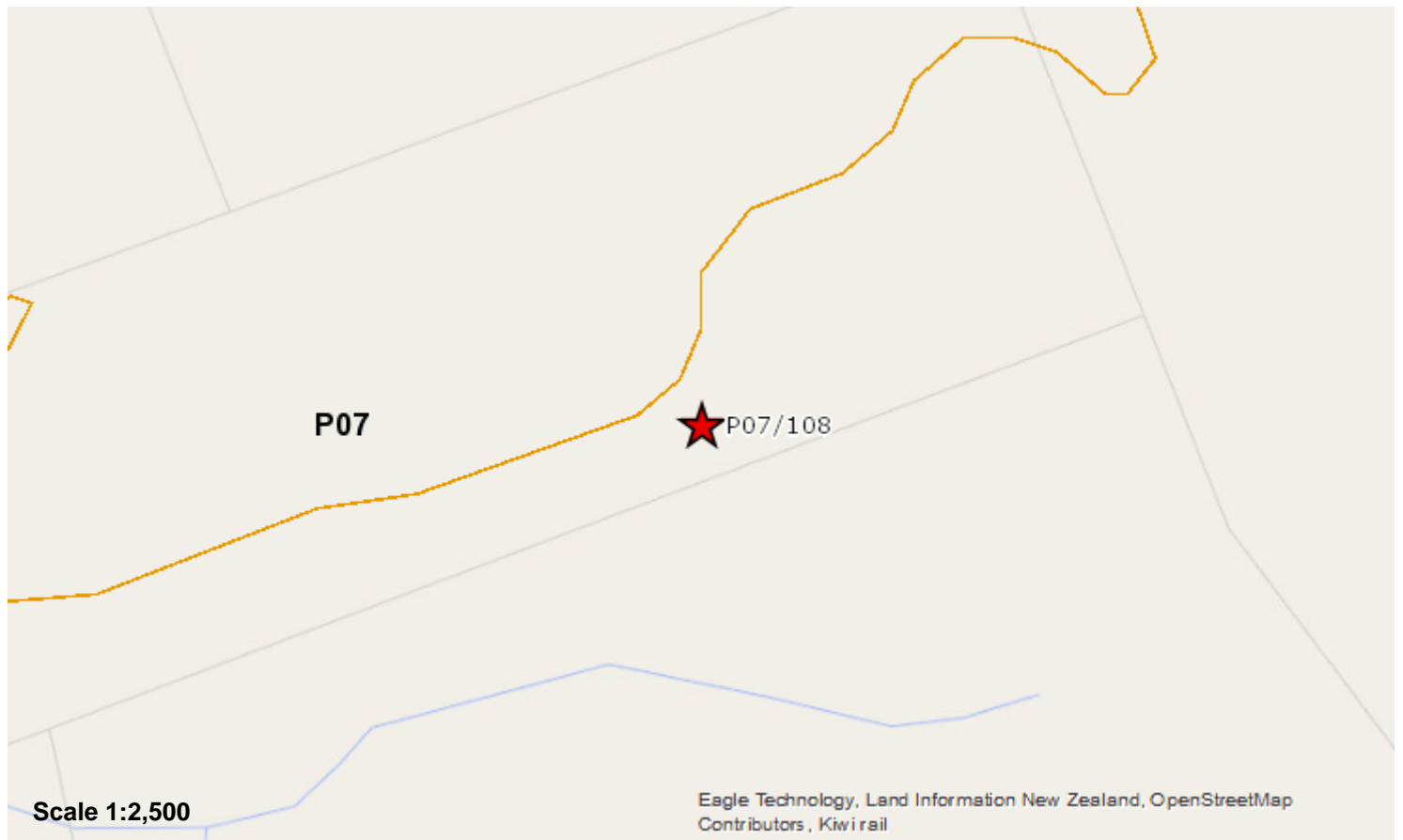
SITE COORDINATES (NZTM) Easting: 1678914

Northing: 6023972

Source: Handheld GPS

IMPERIAL SITE NUMBER:

METRIC SITE NUMBER: P07/108



Finding aids to the location of the site

South east side of Lot 2 DP 517950, 550m east along the southern boundary from Awakino Road. At top of spur descending to the south, post and wire fence 15m west, eroding gully on eastern side.

Brief description

Recorded features

Pit, Terrace

Other sites associated with this site

SITE RECORD HISTORY**NZAA SITE NUMBER:** P07/108**Site description**

Updated 03/07/2023 (Field visit), submitted by jonocarpeneter , visited 28/06/2023 by Carpenter, Jonathan
Grid reference (E1678914 / N6023972)

A single possible archaeological sites was located near the southern boundary, at the top of a southeast facing descending spur. The site comprised one possible rectangular storage pit 3 x 1.5 x 0.3m deep and oriented approximately south west to north east on the edge of the level ground, with a possible terrace 8 x 3 with a rear scarp up to 1.5m high immediately below to the south east. Approximately 15m to the west is a post and wire fence running north to south, while the eastern side of the site drops away steeply into an eroding gully. The feature is not visible in the 1950 aerial as the slope appears to be covered in rank vegetation at that time, and is barely visible in recent aerial imagery. No other features of this nature were observed in the Plan Change area, and if it proves to be Maori/prehistoric it is likely to be an isolated habitation complex associated with nearby kumara cultivation.

Condition of the site**Statement of condition****Current land use:****Threats:**

Supporting documentation held in ArchSite

